

### What are the 6 types of cancer prevented by the HPV vaccine?

1 Cervical Cancer

2 Cancer of the Vulva

3 Cancer of the Vagina



**Cancer of the Penis** 





\*cancer in the back of the throat, including the base of the tongue and tonsils

### ✓ What is HPV?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common virus spread between people during unprotected sex with an infected partner. Some types of HPV cause warts on the skin, including anal and genital warts, and some types cause cancer.

# ✓ When should my child be vaccinated?

The HPV vaccine is recommended for preteen boys and girls starting at age 9. This protects them before being exposed to the virus. Getting the vaccine at this age makes it easier for the body to fight the HPV virus.

The vaccine is given in 2 doses. The second dose is given 6 months after the first dose. If your child doesn't get their first shot until age 15 or older, they will need 3 doses.

## ✓ Should boys get the vaccine?

**Yes.** Boys should get the HPV vaccine for two reasons: **1)** Protection from anal and genital warts, as well as cancers of the head, neck, anus, and penis **2)** Keep from spreading the virus to future sexual partners.

### ✓ Is the HPV vaccine safe?

Research studies show the HPV vaccine is safe. Like any vaccine or medicine, the HPV vaccine can cause side effects (pain, redness, and tenderness at injection site; low grade fever; fainting; headache; and nausea). HPV vaccination is typically not associated with any serious side effects.

The benefits of HPV vaccination far outweigh any potential risk.



More information is available at cancer.utah.gov/cancers/hpv/.

